# Fingerprint Detective

**Kit contains:**

- 1 roll of tape
- 1 magnifying lens
- 4 fingerprint cards

**You will need:** a pencil, scissors, and scratch paper.

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# INSTRUCTIONS

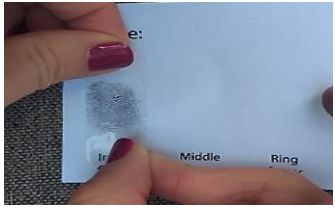
**Step 1.** Use a pencil to scribble hard on scratch paper to make an area of dark graphite (from the pencil lead). This is going to be your “stamp pad,” so make it big enough to cover your fingertip.

**Step 2.** Put your index fingertip in the pencil graphite, press hard. Roll your finger around slightly to make sure you get the sides of your finger covered.

**Step 3.** Cut a piece of tape and stick it to your fingertip, again press hard. The sticky side of the tape will pick up the fingerprint.

**Tip:** Fold the sticky end of your tape roll under so that you can find the end of the tape next time you want to use it.

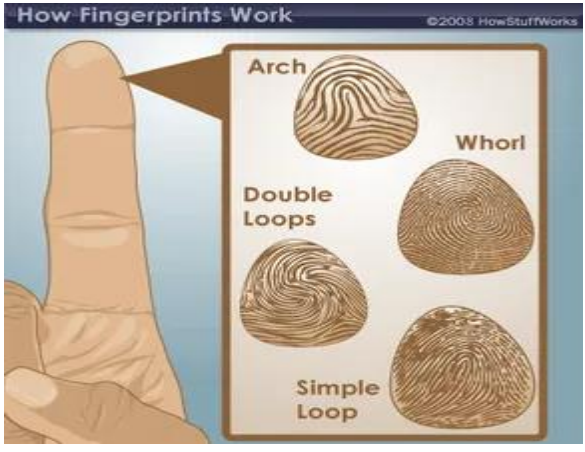
**Step 4.** Stick the tape onto the fingerprint card.




**Step 5.** Use the magnifying lens to look closely at your fingerprint. There are three main fingerprint patterns: arches, loops, and whorls (see back cover). Which patterns do you see?

Repeat the process with your other fingers. Then collect fingerprints from family or friends.

**Be a Detective!** Now have a fingerprint buddy leave prints on paper without writing their name. Don't watch! Can you determine the person to whom the prints belong?




Fingerprints are the tiny ridges, whorls and valley patterns on the tip of each finger. They form from the pressure on a baby's tiny, developing fingers in the womb. Fingerprints are distinct and almost always unique. There's a one in 64 billion chance that your fingerprint will match up exactly with someone else's.

Sources:
*https://science.howstuffworks.com/fingerprinting1.htm*
*https://frugalfun4boys.com/detective-science-fingerprinting/*